

# HOOSIER HOSTILITY: *Battlegrounds and Heroes in Indiana's War History*



## Pershing:

Pershing, Indiana was originally called "Germany." Anti-German sentiment during World War I caused the town to adopt the name "Pershing" after General John Pershing, commander of the Western Front in 1918.

## Logansport:

During the Northwest Indian War, Lieutenant Colonel James Wilkinson raided the Miami (Wea) town of Kenapacomaqua located here. Sixty warriors fought the militia force of over 500 men, and the town was destroyed.

## West Lafayette:

Fort Ouiatenon was the first fortified European settlement in what is now Indiana – built by the French around 1719. The British captured the fort in 1760, but it was recaptured by Native Americans during Pontiac's War in 1763. The fort exchanged hands during the American Revolution, and General Washington ordered it destroyed in 1791. A replica was built in 1930.

## Battle Ground:

On November 7, 1811, William Henry Harrison led American forces against Native Americans at Prophetstown. With their military leader, Tecumseh, away, the Native American warriors were led by his brother Tenskwatawa. Harrison's force of 1,000 men dispersed the warriors. The Americans burned Prophetstown, destroying the winter supplies. Prophetstown, however, was quickly rebuilt and destroyed again in 1812. The battle increased the violence in the frontier.

## Dana:

This is the hometown of Ernie Pyle, a Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist best known as a war correspondent embedded with the troops during World War II.



## Terre Haute:

The first American land victory in the War of 1812 happened when outnumbered forces led by Zachary Taylor defended Fort Harrison here against a band of Native Americans fighting for the British.

## Ellettsville:

Indiana Bedford limestone has been used on notable buildings around the country, including the Pentagon. In 2001, the Bybee Stone Company here provided 2.5 million pounds of the quarried stone to rebuild the portion of the Pentagon destroyed by terrorists on September 11.

## Vincennes:

George Rogers Clark marched French and American troops from Kaskaskia in Illinois and reached Fort Sackville here on February 23, 1779. The British surrendered the fort in two days, giving control of the western frontier to the Americans in the Revolutionary War.

## Indianapolis:

Arsenal Technical High School was originally built as a U.S. Civil War arsenal. The high school was established in 1912, and the campus today includes most of the original buildings, including barracks and a guard house.

Author Kurt Vonnegut was born here in 1922. Vonnegut enlisted in the U.S. Army in 1943 and was captured by the Germans but survived the Allied bombing of Dresden by taking refuge in the meat locker of a slaughterhouse. In 1969, his novel *Slaughterhouse-Five* became a symbol of the anti-Vietnam War movement, and Vonnegut gained widespread acclaim.



Kurt Vonnegut at Ball State University



Actor/comedian Lou Costello at a War Bond rally in Muncie

## Edinburgh:

Camp Atterbury was built just after the attack on Pearl Harbor in 1941. The convalescent hospital on the base was the largest of its kind, and 500 barracks, six theaters, and four gyms were constructed. The base trained 275,000 men and women soldiers during World War II. The base was also used as a prisoner of war camp, housing German, Italian, and Eastern European prisoners.



## Aurora:

On August 24, 1781, Joseph Brant and about 100 Native Americans from local tribes ambushed Colonel Archibald Lochry and a force of 100 militiamen fighting for the Americans against the British and their allies during the Revolutionary War. Lochry surrendered and was killed, along with over 30 militiamen; 67 were captured. None of the Native Americans were killed.

## Underwood:

The village of Pigeon Roost was attacked by a war party of mostly Shawnee in a coordinated attack during the War of 1812. On September 3, 1812, Native Americans allied with the British killed 24 settlers in the village and kidnapped two children.

## Corydon:

Confederate General John Hunt Morgan led an incursion into northern states during the Civil War in July of 1863. Morgan captured 355 Union militia at the Battle of Corydon before crossing northeast into Ohio.

## Columbia City:

During the Revolutionary War in November of 1780, French colonial officer Augustin de La Balme planned an attack on the British fort at Kekionga (Fort Wayne). La Balme's forces, however, were overwhelmingly defeated by Little Turtle.

## Fort Wayne:

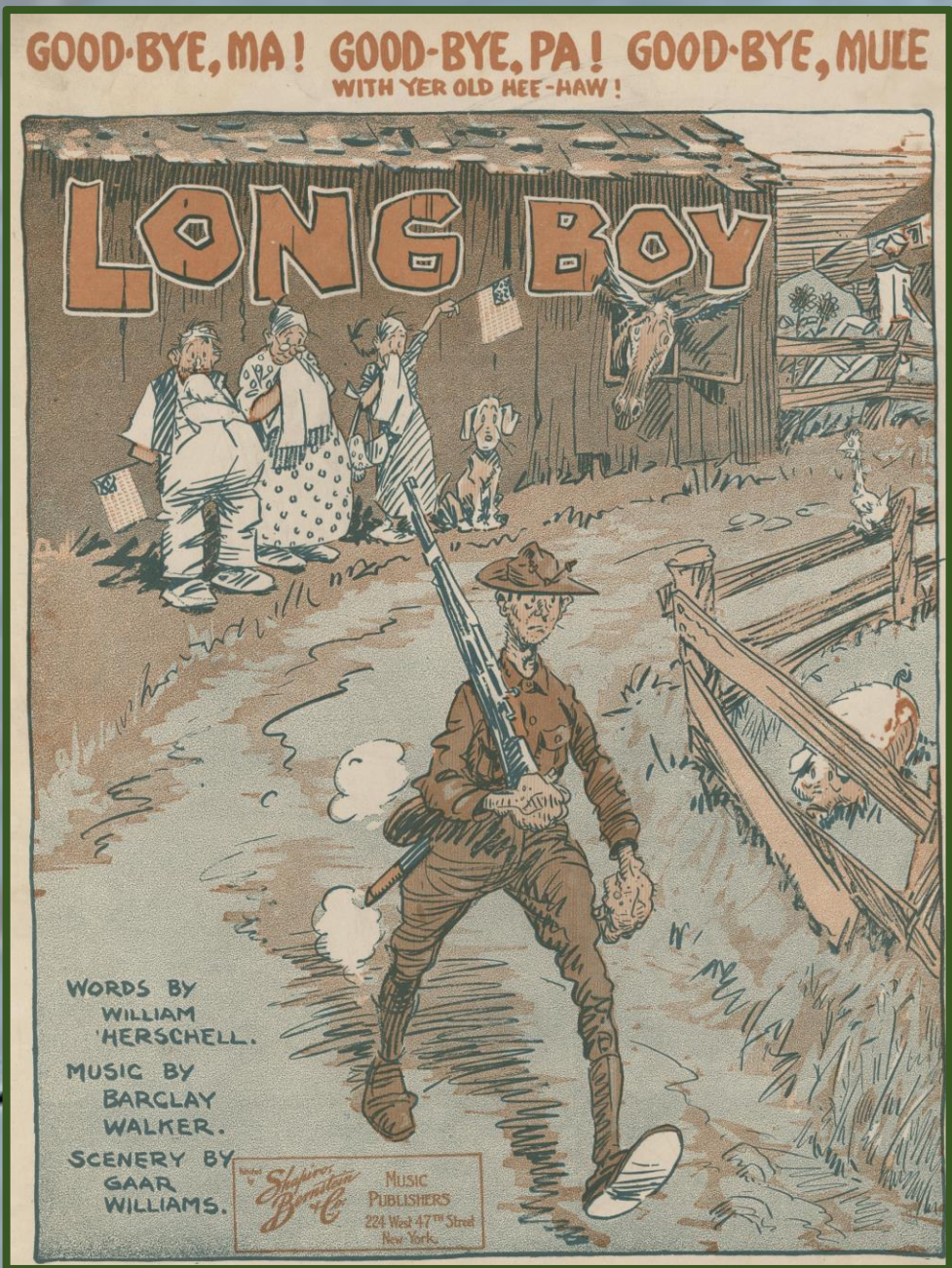
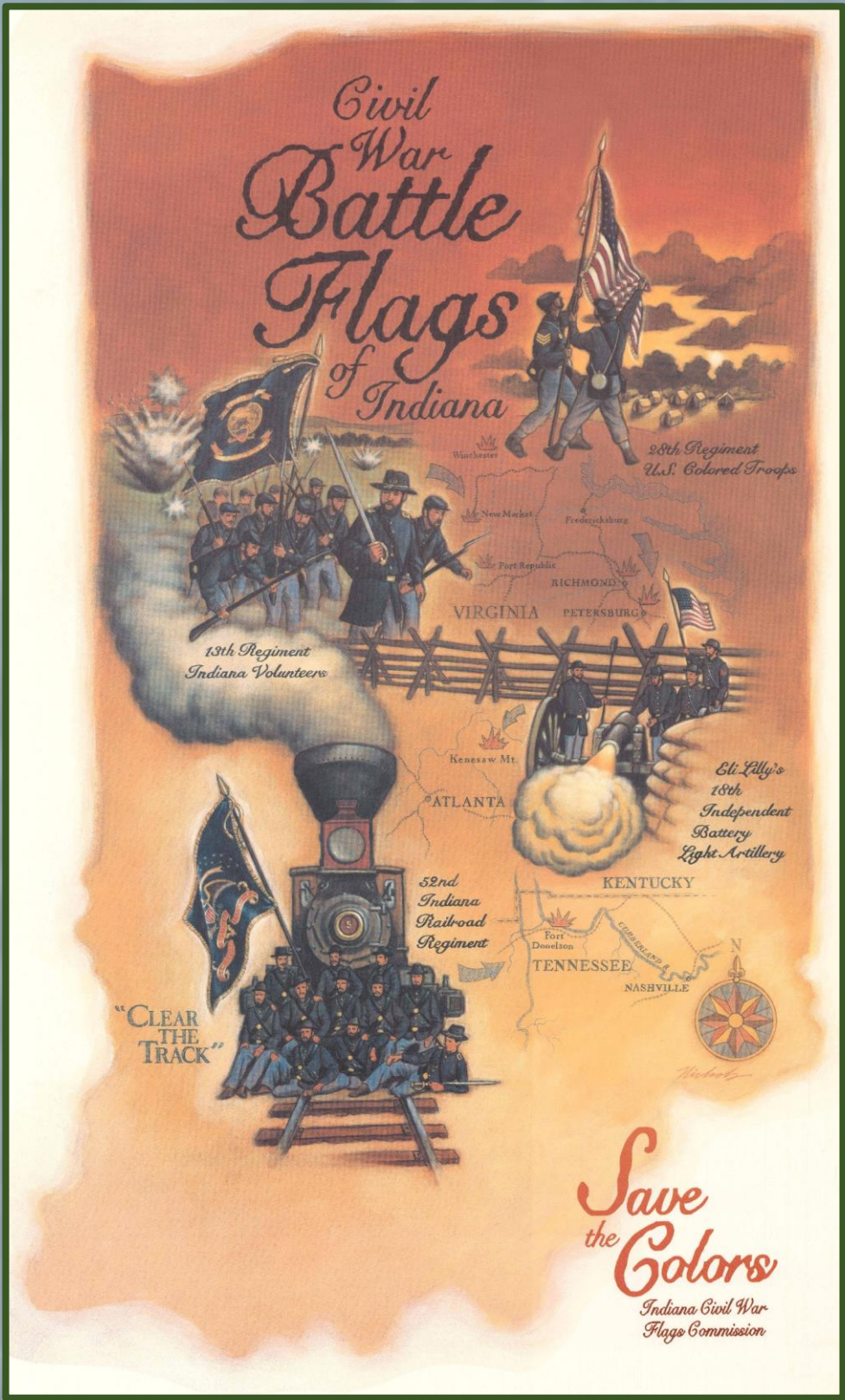
A confederacy of Native Americans led by Little Turtle of the Miami and Blue Jacket of the Shawnee was victorious in a series of battles near Kekionga (Fort Wayne) during the Northwest Indian War in 1790. The losses became known as Harmar's Defeat – named for General Josiah Harmar. It was the worst defeat of American forces by Native Americans up to that time.

## Jalapa:

The Battle of Mississinewa began in December during the War of 1812. William Henry Harrison ordered the destruction of Miami villages along the Mississinewa River. Twelve of the American cavalry were killed but many more were incapacitated from frostbite. Today the location is the site of the largest War of 1812 reenactment in the U.S.

## Windfall:

A German prisoner-of-war camp was located here from 1944 to 1945 during World War II. The camp housed 1,500 German prisoners at its peak, and they worked as laborers on local farms.



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